

REMARKS

In the subject Office Action dated July 17, 2006, claims 1-22 were examined. Claims 5, 6, 11, 17, 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter and posing no limitation on the invention. Claim 12 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being vague and indefinite. Claims 7-10 were rejected for being dependent on the above rejected claims. Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Meyer et al. (U.S. Patent 6,810,389) in view of Boebert (U.S. Patent 5,502,766). Claim 1 and claim 3 were specifically rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Meyer et al. (U.S. Patent 6,810,389) in view of Boebert (U.S. Patent 5,502,766). Claims 14, 20, and 22 were cited as being in parallel with claim 1 and were rejected for the same reasons. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21 were directed to allowable subject matter if rewritten to include all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

In response thereto, Applicants have amended claims 5, 6, 11, 17, 19 and 12 and believe the amendments remove the indefiniteness cited by the examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph. Consequently, claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17 and 19 and claims 7-10 that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance with respect to the 112 second paragraph rejection.

Applicants once again appreciate the indication that claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21 were directed to allowable subject matter and have amended claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21 to include all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Specifically, applicant has amended dependent claim 2 to include the features of independent claim 1, the latter having thus been canceled. Applicant has also amended claim 4 to include the limitations of claim 3 and to depend from amended claim 2, and consequently, claim 3 has been cancelled. Original claim 13 now depends from amended claim 2. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from amended claim 2. Claim 16 depends from amended claim 15 and was amended to include “and”. Claim 18 has also been amended to depend from amended claim 2. And, applicant has amended dependent claim 21 to include the features of independent claim 20. Claims 14, 20, and 22 have been canceled. Applicant has also amended claim 6 to depend from amended claim 4, and amended claim 17 to depend from amended claim 2.

Applicant believes that claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21 are in condition for allowance. Applicant would also like to respectfully submit that amended claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 19, and original claims 7-10 now depend from the amended claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21, and thus all dependent claims depending from the amended claims are also in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21, amended claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 19, and original claims 7-10 is thus respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims currently pending in the present application are in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of those claims, as amended herein, is earnestly solicited. Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact their representative, Kenneth S. Wales at (513) 651-6889 or kwales@fbtlaw.com.

The application was filed with 22 claims total and 4 independent claims. After amendment, the application has 17 claims total with 2 being independent. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

Respectfully submitted,
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